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GILBERT'S
HEATHEN
MYTHOLOGY.

49. 1000.



HEATHEN MYTHOLOGY.

LONDON:
SPOTTISWOODE and SHAW,
New-street-Square.

A
COMPENDIUM
OF
HEATHEN MYTHOLOGY:

DRAWN FROM
THE MOST AUTHENTIC SOURCES.

FOR THE USE OF YOUNG LADIES.

BY
E. A. GILBERT.

LONDON:
LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN, AND LONGMANS,
PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1849.



PREFACE.

AN acquaintance with the Mythology of the Ancients is an indispensable part of a liberal education ; nevertheless, owing to the objectionable expressions introduced into works upon this subject, it is a branch of study much neglected in the education of young ladies, who, consequently, upon their entrance into society, are often confounded, both in conversation and in books, at elegant allusions which they are utterly unable to comprehend. With a view to obviate this inconvenience the following pages have been compiled, chiefly from "Lemprière's Classical Dictionary" and "Ovid's Meta-

morphoses," and are designed to be committed to memory, and recited as an ordinary lesson, and not in any manner to supersede the use of more elaborate works, which may, conveniently, be used as books of reference.

The Latin terminations, as more classical than the English, have generally been adopted, because the study of the Latin language (the basis of solid learning) has now almost universally obtained among young ladies of the higher classes of society, and certainly forms a prominent part in the studies of those for whom this compendium of Heathen Mythology was expressly written.

In studying the Mythology of the Ancients, the young student will do well to remark the mighty barrier which human art and human wisdom raised against the revelation of truth. Even the political existence of the chief states of the ancient

civilised world was supposed to depend on the maintenance of that religion, whose outline is sketched in this little book : hence the hostility evinced towards a Socrates and a Saint Paul. Had they preached, not the principles of truth, but a new-born son of Jupiter, Mars, or Venus, to preside over some infernal quality, or new earthly pleasure, they would everywhere have found able support ; for statesmen and generals alike would have patronised a system, the object of which was to forge another chain to bind the people still more closely to their mental slavery.

To burst these bonds asunder, to dispel the mists of philosophy and vain deceit, to lead man into “the paths of righteousness,” and to redeem him from everlasting death, our blessed Saviour wrought his most stupendous miracles, and fulfilled his gracious mission ; and the same omni-

potent arm is still necessary to preserve the light of truth from the aggressions of pride, ignorance, and superstition.

Some of the Hindoo gods have been inserted among the classic deities of Greece and Rome, because the Hindoos are a civilised nation, having their lexicons and grammars, and studying poetry, astronomy, painting, and other polite arts : they, therefore, afford another striking instance of the inability of man, however expert in worldly science, to choose a religion for himself ; manifesting that his innate blindness and depravity lead him, in this respect, to nothing but what is debasing to the lowest degree.

2. *Notting Hill Square,*
Nov. 1848.

THE
HEATHEN MYTHOLOGY.

ACHELŌUS, the son of Oceanus and Tethys. He contended with Hercules and was defeated. After his defeat, he was changed into a river, which flows in Epirus and takes its rise in Mount Pindus.

ACHÉRON, a river of Thesprotia in Epirus, fabled as one of the rivers of hell.

ACHILLES, the son of Peleus and Thetis, and the bravest of all the Greeks in the Trojan war. During his infancy his mother dipped him into the river Styx, which rendered him invulnerable in every part except the heel, by which she held him. It is said that Paris aimed an arrow

at his vulnerable heel, in the tenth year of the Trojan war, of which wound he died. His body was buried at Sigeum, and divine honours were paid to him.

ACIS, a shepherd of Sicily. Polymēmus, king of the Cyclops of Sicily, crushed him to death through jealousy. The gods changed Acis into a stream, which rises from mount Ætna.

ACONTEUS, a famous hunter, changed into a stone by the head of Medusa.

ACTÆON, a famous huntsman, son of Aristæus and Autonoe. He was changed by Diana into a stag, and devoured by his own dogs.

ACTIS, son of Sol. He went from Greece into Egypt, where he taught astrology and founded Heliopolis.

ADAMANTÆA, Jupiter's nurse in Crete. To protect him from his father Saturn, who intended to have devoured him, she suspended him in his cradle to a tree, that

he might be found neither on earth, the sea, nor in heaven. To drown his cries she caused the Corybantes to sound drums and other musical instruments around the tree.

ADMETUS, king of Pheræ in Thessaly. Apollo, when banished from heaven, is said to have tended his flocks for nine years, and to have obtained from the Parcæ that Admetus should never die provided another person laid down his life for him; a proof of affection which his wife Alceste cheerfully gave him.

ADONIS, son of Cinyras, a rich king of Cyprus. He was often cautioned by Venus not to hunt wild beasts, an amusement in which he much delighted. He slighted the advice of the goddess, and at last received a mortal bite from a wild boar. Venus, after shedding many tears at his death, changed him into the flower called anemony.

ÆA, a huntress changed into an island by the Gods, to rescue her from the pursuit of the river Phasis.

ÆGIS, the shield of Jupiter, covered with the skin of the goat Amaltheæa. Jupiter gave this shield to Minerva, who placed upon it, as a boss, the head of Medusa.

ÆNEAS, son of Anchises and Venus. He married Creusa, daughter of Priam, king of Troy. During the Trojan war he behaved with great valour. From him Romulus is supposed to have derived his descent.

ÆOLUS, the king of storms and winds. He gave to Ulysses a bag containing all the winds that could blow against his vessel when he returned to Ithaca. The companions of Ulysses contrived to untie the bag and set the winds at liberty, which caused his disastrous voyage.

ÆSCULAPIUS, son of Apollo, and the

God of medicine. He restored many to life, of which Pluto complained to Jupiter, who struck Æsculapius with thunder, but Apollo, angry at the death of his son, killed the Cyclops who forged the thunderbolts.

ALCYÖNE or **HALCYÖNE**, daughter of Æolus. Her husband was Ceyx, who was drowned as he was going to Claros. The Gods apprised Alcyone of her husband's fate in a dream, and when on the morrow she found his body washed on the sea-shore, she threw herself into the sea, and was with her husband changed into birds of the same name, which keep the water calm while they build, and sit on their nests, on the surface of the sea.

ALCYÖNEUS, a giant killed by Hercules. His daughters mourning his death, threw themselves into the sea, and were changed by Amphitrite into Alcyones.

ALIRROTHIUS, a son of Neptune, who

in attempting to cut down the olive which Minerva had made to spring from the ground when contending with his father about giving a name to Athens, missed his aim and cut his own legs so severely, that he immediately expired.

ALOĒUS, a giant, the son of Terra and Titan.

AMALTHÆA, daughter of Melissus, king of Crete, who fed Jupiter with goat's milk ; hence some authors have called her a goat.

AMBRÖSIA, festivals in honour of Bacchus, in some cities of Greece. They were the same as the Brumalia of the Romans. The food of the Gods was called Ambrosia. The word signifies immortal.

AMELES, a river of hell, whose waters no vessel could contain.

AMMON or **HAMMON**, a name of Jupiter, worshipped in Libya.

AMBARVALIA, a joyful procession round the ploughed fields, in honour of Ceres. A sow, a sheep, and a bull, were always immolated on the occasion.

AMPHITRITE, daughter of Oceanus and Tethys, and wife of Neptune.

ANCHISES, the father of Æneas.

ANCILE, a sacred shield which fell from heaven in the reign of Numa. Upon the preservation of this shield depended the fate of the Roman Empire.

ANDROMACHE, daughter of Eetion, king of Thebes in Cilicia, married to Hector, son of Priam, king of Troy.

ANNA, a goddess in whose honour the Romans instituted festivals. She is supposed to be the sister of Dido, who fled from Carthage and came to Italy, where she was honourably treated by Æneas.

ANTÆUS, a giant of Libya, son of Terra and Neptune. Hercules attacked him, but as he received new strength from

his mother as often as he touched the ground, Hercules lifted him up in the air and squeezed him to death in his arms.

ANTHESTERIA, festivals in honour of Bacchus among the Greeks.

ANŪBIS, an Egyptian deity whose worship was also introduced into Greece and Italy. He is supposed to be the Mercury of the Greeks.

APOLLO, the son of Jupiter and Latona, called also Phœbus, or the sun. He was the deity, according to the ancients, who inflicted plagues on mankind, and at that time always appeared surrounded with clouds. His most famous oracles were at Delphi, Delos, Claros, Tenedos, Cyrrha, and Patara.

ARACHNE, a woman of Colophon, daughter of a dyer. She challenged Minerva to a trial of skill in the art of needle-work. Being defeated by the goddess, she hung herself in despair, but was imme-

dately afterwards turned into a spider by her successful competitor.

ARGUS, the son of Arestor, who had one hundred eyes, of which only two were asleep at the same time : for this cause he was employed by Juno to watch Io ; but Mercury, by the command of Jupiter, having lulled all his eyes to sleep by the sound of his lyre, slew him. Juno placed the eyes of Argus on the tail of the peacock, a bird sacred to her divinity.

ASTREA, daughter of Titanus (Saturn's brother) and Aurora. She was called Justice, of which virtue she was the goddess. She lived upon earth during the golden age, but the wickedness and impiety of the brazen and iron ages drove her to heaven. She was placed among the constellations of the zodiac, under the name of Virgo.

ASTREUS, one of the Titans who made war against Jupiter.

ATALANTA, a daughter of Schæneus king of Scyros. Remarkable for her swiftness in running. Having promised to marry the man who could reach the goal first in a race with herself, many offered to compete with her in running: she, however, defeated them all, until Hippomanes presented himself. Venus had presented him with three golden apples from the garden of the Hesperides; and as soon as he had started in the course he artfully threw down the apples at some distance one from the other. While Atalanta, charmed with the apples, stopped to pick them up, Hippomanes hastened to the goal, and obtained Atalanta in marriage.

ATÈ, a daughter of Jupiter: she was the goddess of all evil. She raised such jealousy and discord among the Gods that her father dragged her away from heaven by the hair of her head, and banished her to earth, where she immediately incited

mankind to wickedness, and stirred up continual commotions.

ATLANTIDES, the seven daughters of **Atlas**: their names were **Maia**, **Electra**, **Taygeta**, **Asterope**, **Merope**, **Alcyone**, and **Celæno**. The name of **Hesperides** was also given them on account of their mother **Hesperis**. They make that constellation in the heavens called the **Pleiades**.

ATLAS, one of the **Titans**, son of **Japetus** and **Clymene**, one of the **Oceanides**. He studied astronomy, and from the circumstance of his frequenting elevated places, the better to observe the heavenly bodies, arose the fable of his supporting the heavens on his back, or, as others say, **Atlas** was changed into a mountain in **Africa**, which is so high that the ancients imagined the heavens rested on its top.

AUGEAS, the son of **Elius**. He was one of the **Argonauts**, and afterwards ascended the throne of **Elis**. The stables in which

he kept an immense number of oxen and goats had never been cleaned, so that the task seemed an impossibility; nevertheless, Hercules undertook it, upon condition that he should receive as his reward a tenth part of the king's herds. He effected the task, by turning the course of the river Alpheus, or, as some say, the Peneus, which immediately carried away the filth. The proverb of the Augean stable is now applied to an impossibility.

AURORA, the reputed daughter of Titan and Terra. She is represented by the poets as drawn in a rose-coloured chariot by the Horæ, and opening with her rosy fingers the gates of the east. Nox and Somnus fly before her, and the stars of heaven disappear at her approach. She always precedes the sun, and is the harbinger of his approach.

AVERNUS, a lake of Campania, whose waters were so putrid that no birds were

ever seen on its banks. The ancients called it the entrance of hell.

B.

BACCHANALIA, feasts in honour of Bacchus at Rome, the same as the Dionysia of the Greeks.

BACCHUS, the son of Jupiter and Semele. Silenus was his foster-father. He subdued the east, penetrating beyond those regions, which were afterwards conquered by Alexander the Great. The people easily submitted to him, and gratefully elevated to the rank of a God, the hero who taught them the use of the vine, the cultivation of the earth, and the manner of making honey. His army consisted as well of women as of men, all inspired with divine fury, and armed with thursi, cymbals, &c. Bacchus is the Osiris of the Egyptians, and his history is drawn from the Egyptian traditions concerning that ancient king.

Bacchus is styled the God of Wine, and his festivals were celebrated under circumstances of great licentiousness, his followers, dressed as satyrs, being at those times constantly intoxicated. In Greece Bacchus was called Dionysius.

BASILEA, a daughter of Cœlus and Terra.

BAUBO, a woman who entertained Ceres, when she was engaged in her search all over the world for her daughter Proserpine, whom Pluto had carried to hell and married.

BAUCIS, an old woman, who, with her husband Philemon, entertained to the best of their ability Jupiter and Mercury, when they were travelling in disguise over Asia. As a reward for their hospitality, Jupiter metamorphosed their poor cottage into a magnificent temple, of which they were made priest and priestess. The God likewise conceded to them their wish to die

contemporaneously. After their death they were changed into two trees which adorned the entrance to their temple.

BELENUS, a divinity of the Gauls ; the same as the Apollo of the Greeks, and the Orus of the Egyptians.

BELLONA, the goddess of war, and the sister of Mars, whose chariot she prepared when he was going to war : she always herself appeared in battle, armed with a whip, her hair dishevelled, and a torch in her hand.

BELUS, one of the most ancient kings of Babylon, worshipped as a god after his death with much ceremony, by the Assyrians and Babylonians. The temple of Belus was the most ancient and the most magnificent temple in the world. It was originally the tower of Babel.

BONA DEA, a name given by the Greeks to Ops, Vesta, and Cybele ; by the Romans to Fauna or Fatua. The

festivals of this goddess were celebrated only in the night, by the Roman matrons, in the houses of the highest officers of the state.

BOREAS, the name of the north wind, blowing from the Hyperborean mountains. Boreas was the son of **Astreus** and **Aurora**.

BRACHMANES, Indian philosophers, who devoted themselves wholly to the worship of the Gods. They believed that Brahma, their chief deity, created as many worlds as there are parts in the body, which they reckoned fourteen. They also believed that there were seven seas ; — one of water, one of milk, one of curds, one of butter, one of salt, one of sugar, and one of wine, each blessed with its particular paradise. The Brachmans were accustomed to endure labours, and live with frugality and abstinence for thirty-seven years ; after which time, they were permitted to indulge themselves in all licentious pleasures, without control.

BRIAREUS, a famous giant, son of Cœlus and Terra, who had fifty heads and one hundred hands. When Juno, Minerva, and Neptune conspired to dethrone Jupiter, Briareus ascended to heaven, and seating himself next to the supreme deity, so terrified the conspirators by his fierce looks, that they gave up their plan. He also assisted the giants in their war against the Gods. Ultimately he was cast under mount Ætna, where his groans continue to be heard.

BRUMALIA, feasts at Rome in honour of Bacchus.

C.

CACUS, a famous robber, whom Hercules squeezed and strangled, although he was a three-headed monster constantly vomiting fire.

CADUCEUS, the rod borne by Mercury, which was entwined by two serpents.

C

With it Mercury conducted the souls of the dead to the infernal regions, lulled to sleep, and even raised the dead to life.

CÆCULUS, a son of Vulcan ; so called from the smallness of his eyes.

CALLIOPE, one of the nine Muses, daughter of Jupiter and Mnemosyne. She presided over eloquence and heroic poetry. She was generally represented with a trumpet in her right hand, and in her left the three most famous epic poems of antiquity.

CALYPSO, one of the Oceanides, who reigned in the island of Ogygia. Ulysses was shipwrecked on her coasts, and there detained by the Goddess seven years.

CASTOR and **POLLUX**, twin brothers, sons of Jupiter and Leda. They make the constellations in the heavens called Gemini, which never appear together, but when one rises the other sets, and so on alternately.

CELÄNO, one of the Harpies.

CENTAURI, a people of Thessaly, half men and half horses. This fable arose from the Thessalians being the first to tame and mount horses, which being then a prodigy, their ignorant neighbours supposed them to form a part of the animals they were riding. The most celebrated of the centaurs were Chiron, Eurytus, Amycus, Gryneus, Caumas, Lycidas, Arneus, Medon, Rhœtus, Pisenor, Mermeros, and Pholus.

CERBERUS, Pluto's dog which guarded the entrance to hell. He is represented with three heads.

CEREALIA, festivals in honour of Ceres.

CERES, the goddess of corn and harvests, daughter of Saturn and Vesta. She taught mankind to plough, sow, and reap corn, to make bread, &c. Sicily was supposed to be the favourite retreat of this Goddess. The Romans paid her great

adoration, and her festivals were held by the Roman matrons during eight days in the month of April. These matrons always bore lighted torches, in commemoration of Ceres' search for her daughter Proserpine, who had been carried off by Pluto.

CETO, a daughter of Pontus and Terra. She was the mother of the Gorgons.

CEYX, a king of Trachinia, son of Lucifer, and husband of Alcyone.

CHAOS, a rude and shapeless mass of matter, which, according to the poets, pre-existed the formation of the world. Chaos was deemed as one of the oldest of the Gods and invoked as one of the infernal deities.

CHARITIES, the Graces, daughters of Jupiter and Venus. Their names were Aglaia, Thalia, and Euphrosyne. They are represented as three modest and beautiful young women, who presided over kindness and all good offices.

CHARON, a God of hell, son of Erebus and Nox, who conducted the souls of the dead in a boat over the rivers Styx and Acheron to the infernal regions. As the dead had to pay for their admission, it was customary among the ancients to place a piece of money under the tongue of the defunct, for Charon.

CHARYBDIS, a whirlpool personified as a woman ; it was on the coast of Sicily, opposite another whirlpool called Scylla, which was on the coast of Italy. These whirlpools were formerly dangerous to sailors, now, from the improvements in navigation, of no consequence. “ Incidit in Scyllam, qui vult vitare Charybdim,” became a proverb among the ancients.

CHIMÆRA, a monster with three heads continually vomiting flames. The fore-parts of its body were those of a lion, the middle of a goat, and the hinder parts those of a dragon. The three heads re-

spectively corresponded with each of these animals.

CHIRON, the centaur who instructed Achilles, *Æsculapius*, Hercules, Jason, Peleus, and *Æneas* in all the polite arts. He was placed by Jupiter (who at his own intercession deprived him of immortality) among the constellations, under the name of Sagittarius.

CIRCE, a daughter of Sol and Perseis, celebrated for her knowledge of magic and poisonous herbs.

CLIO, one of the Muses. She presided over history.

CONCORDIA, the goddess of peace, worshipped by the Romans.

CONSENTES, a name given by the Romans to the twelve superior deities, viz., Jupiter, Mars, Mercury, Neptune, Vulcan, Apollo, Juno, Minerva, Ceres, Diana, Vesta, and Venus.

CUPID, the son of Venus, and God of

love. Among the ancients he was worshipped with the same solemnities as his mother.

CYBELE, a daughter of Cœlus and Terra, and wife of Saturn. Her priests were called Corybantes, Galli, &c.,

CYCLOPS, a race of giants, supposed to be sons of Cœlus and Terra. They had but one eye in the middle of the forehead, which tradition arises from their custom of wearing small bucklers over their faces with an aperture in the middle, which corresponded exactly to the eye. They resided in Sicily, near mount Ætna, whence they have been supposed to be the workmen of Vulcan, and to have fabricated the thunderbolts of Jupiter.

CYNTHIA, a surname of Diana, from Mount Cynthus, where she was born.

CYNTHIUS, a surname of Apollo from the same circumstance. The mountain was sacred to these twins.

CYTHERA, a surname of Venus, from Cythera, an island on the coast of Laconia, sacred to her. Some suppose she rose from the sea near this island, others that she rose near Cyprus.

D.

DIANA, the Goddess of hunting. Sixty of the Oceanides and twenty other nymphs were her attendants in the woods and forests she frequented. She, as well as her brother Apollo, had some oracles, among which those of Egypt, Cilicia, and Ephesus are the most known. Her name in the infernal regions was Hecate.

DIRÆ, the daughters of Acheron and Nox, who persecuted the souls of the wicked. They are supposed to be the same as the Furies, and called Furies in hell, Harpies on earth, and Diræ in heaven.

DISCORDIA, a malevolent deity, daughter of Nox, driven from heaven by Jupiter,

for sowing dissensions among the Gods. At the marriage of Peleus and Thetis, to which ceremony she had received no invitation, she threw an apple into the midst of the assembly with this inscription, “*detur pulchriori.*” This apple produced much contention among the Goddesses, and infinite misfortunes to man. To it is ascribed the ruin of Troy, and the disasters the Greeks subsequently suffered.

DRUIDÆ, the ministers of religion among the ancient Gauls and Britons.

DRYADES, nymphs who presided over woods. They were not supposed to be immortal, but as genii whose lives were terminated with the tree over which they presided.

E.

ECHO, a daughter of Air and Tellus. She was deprived of the power of speech by Juno, excepting to answer questions

which were put to her. She pined away and was afterwards changed into a stone, which still retains the power of reflecting sound.

EGERIA, a nymph of Aricia in Italy, by some supposed to be the same as Diana. She was the deity from whom Numa declared he received the wise laws he gave to the Romans, hoping by this means to sanctify them in the eyes of the people.

ELECTRA, one of the Oceanides, the wife of Atlas.

ELEUSINIA, a great festival held every fourth year by the Celeans, Lacedæmonians, and Cretans, and every fifth year by the Athenians, at Eleusis in Attica, in honour of Ceres and Proserpine. A mysterious secrecy was solemnly observed in the celebration of the ceremonies connected with this festival. None but the initiated were permitted to be present at

its solemnities, all intruders being punished with death.

ELEUTHERIA, a festival celebrated at Plataea in honour of Jupiter Eleutherius, as the assertor of liberty.

ELYSIUM, an island in the infernal regions, where, according to the mythology of the ancients, the virtuous were placed after death. Here, happiness was complete, and all pleasures were innocent and refined. Authors vary as to the locality of the Elysian fields, some saying that they were in the Fortunate islands, others in Italy ; Lucian says they were supposed to be near the moon, and Plutarch in the centre of the earth.

ENDYMION, a shepherd, son of Æthlius and Calyce, who required of Jupiter that he might always be young, and to sleep as much as he wished. The fable of Endymion and Diana or the Moon, arises from his knowledge of astronomy, which led

him to pass whole nights on the top of some high mountain; hence it has been reported that he repaired thither to converse with the moon.

EPIMETHEUS, a son of one of the Oceanides who married Pandora. He had the curiosity to open the box she brought with her, and from thence issued a train of evils, which from that moment has never ceased to afflict mankind. Hope only remained at the bottom, and she alone comforts men under misfortune. Epimetheus was afterwards changed into a monkey.

ERATO, the muse who presides over lyric and amorous poetry.

EREBUS, a deity of hell, the son of Chaos and Darkness. He married Night, and is the father of Light and Day.

EUMENIDES, a name given to the Furies by the ancients. They sprang from the drops of blood which fell from the wound which Cœlus received from his son Saturn.

They received this name, which signifies benevolence, after they had ceased to persecute Orestes, who in gratitude erected a temple, and offered sacrifices to their divinity.

EUROPA, a daughter of Agenor, king of Phœnicia, carried by Jupiter in the form of a white bull to Crete, where she married Asterius, king of that island. She was the mother of Minos, Sarpedon, and Rhadamanthus.

EURYNOME, one of the Oceanides, the mother of the Graces.

EUTERPE, one of the Muses, daughter of Jupiter and Mnemosyne. She presided over music, and is regarded as the inventress of the flute and all wind instruments.

F.

FAMA, the Goddess of report; always represented as blowing a trumpet.

FAUNA, a deity among the Romans. She was the wife of Faunus, and daughter of Picus.

FAUNUS, the son of a king of Italy who reigned 1300 years before Christ. He was very hospitable to strangers. His great popularity, and his fondness for agriculture, made his subjects revere him after his death as one of their country deities. He was represented with all the equipage of the satyrs.

FAUNI, rural deities, represented as having their legs, feet, and ears of goats, and the rest of the body human. They were called Satyrs by the Greeks.

FERALIA, a festival in honour of the dead at Rome, called also Februa; hence the name February. The oblations used in these sacrifices consisted of such provisions as the survivors could procure, and were placed on the graves of the deceased, whose manes were supposed to hover

around, and feast upon what had been procured for them by their friends. This festival lasted eleven days, during which time the punishments in the infernal regions were supposed to be suspended, and the manes to enjoy a brief space of rest and liberty.

FERONIA, a Goddess at Rome, who presided over woods and groves.

FIDIUS DIUS, a divinity by whom the Romans generally swore.

FLORA, the Goddess of flowers; represented as crowned with flowers, and holding in her hand the horn of plenty.

FLORALIA, feasts in honour of Flora, at Rome.

FORTUNA, the Goddess of Fortune, she is represented blind-folded, and holding a wheel in her hands, as an emblem of her inconstancy.

G.

GANYMEDE, a Goddess better known by the name of Hebe.

GANYMEDES, a beautiful youth of Phrygia, taken to heaven by Jupiter, and made cup-bearer to the Gods in the place of Hebe.

GIGANTES, the sons of Cœlus and Terra. They were men of vast stature, and of proportional strength. They are often ignorantly confounded with the Titans, to whom they were nearly related. All the writers of antiquity, including Moses, support the existence of giants upon earth. Homer describes Tityus as covering nine acres when extended, and Plutarch mentions that when Sertorius opened the grave of Antæus he found a skeleton which measured six cubits in length. The wars of the giants against Jupiter, like the

wars of the Titans against Saturn, are much celebrated.

GORDIUS, a king of Phrygia, who tied the cords which attached his chariot to a pillar in the temple of Jupiter, in so intricate a manner that the ends could not be seen. It having been reported that he, who could untie the Gordian knot should acquire the empire of Asia, Alexander the Great, to inspire his soldiers with courage, and his enemies with awe, cut the knot asunder with his sword.

GORGONES, three sisters, daughters of Phorcys and Ceto; their names were Stheno, Euryale, and Medusa. Their hair was entwined with serpents, their body covered with impenetrable scales, and their teeth were as long as the tusks of a wild boar. Perseus slew the Gorgons, and presented the head of Medusa to Minerva, who placed it as a boss on her *Aegis*.

GRATIÆ or the GRACES. *Vide CHARITIES.*

GYGES. A Lydian, who, according to Plato, descended into a chasm of the earth, where he found a brazen ring, which, when put on his finger, rendered him invisible. By means of the virtue of this ring he contrived to murder King Candaules, and usurp the sovereignty of Lydia.

H.

HAMADRYADES, nymphs who presided over trees, with which they were said to live and die.

HARPOCRATES, the god of silence. The Romans placed his statues at the entrance of their temples, to intimate that the mysteries of religion and of philosophy ought not to be revealed to the vulgar.

HARPYIÆ, three winged monsters with the faces of women, bodies of vultures,

and hands and feet armed with claws. Their names were *Ællo*, Celeno, and Ocyptete.

HEBE, the goddess of youth, made cup-bearer to the gods.

HECATE, Diana's appellation in hell; in heaven she was called *Luna*, as on earth Diana. Hence she is sometimes termed *Diva triformis*.

HELIADES, the daughters of the Sun and Clymene. They were so afflicted at the death of their brother Phaëton, that the gods changed them into poplars, and their tears into precious amber on the river Po.

HERACLEIA, a festival at Athens, celebrated every fifth year in honour of Hercules.

HERCULES, a celebrated hero, ranked as a god. He was the son of Jupiter and Alcmena. Complying with the commands of the oracle of Apollo, he under-

took to perform the twelve labours imposed upon him by Eurystheus, king of Argos and Mycenæ: whereof, the first was to kill the Nemean lion, which ravaged the country of Mycenæ; the second was to destroy the Lernæan hydra; the third, to catch alive and unhurt the stag, famous for its swiftness, its golden horns, and its brazen feet; the fourth, to capture a wild boar which infested the neighbourhood of Erymanthus, committing dreadful depredations; the fifth, to cleanse the Augean stables; the sixth, to kill the carnivorous birds which ravaged the country around lake Stymphalis, in Arcadia; the seventh, to bring to Peloponnesus a prodigious wild bull which laid waste the island of Crete; the eighth, to obtain the mares of Diomedes, which lived on human flesh; the ninth, to obtain the girdle of the queen of the Amazons; the tenth, to kill the monster Geryon; the

eleventh, to gather and carry off the apples guarded by a dragon in the garden of the Hesperides; and the twelfth, to bring upon earth the three-headed dog Cerberus, which kept the gates of hell. All these exploits, and many others which he imposed upon himself, Hercules accomplished.

HERMÆ, statues of Mercury, in the city of Athens. Among the Greeks Mercury was called Hermes.

HERMIONE, a daughter of Mars and Venus, married to Cadmus. All the gods and goddesses, except Juno, honoured her nuptials with their presence. Both she and Cadmus were changed into serpents and placed in the Elysian fields.

HERTHA, a goddess among the Germans, supposed to be the same as the earth.

HESPERIDES, three nymphs, daughters of Hesperis and Atlas, appointed to guard

the golden apples which Juno gave to Jupiter on the day of their marriage. The garden, in which the apples were kept, was carefully guarded by a dreadful dragon, which never slept. Hercules slew the dragon and carried off the apples.

HESPERUS, a name applied by the poets to the planet Venus, when she appears in the western sky, and shines after the sun has set.

HESUS, a deity among the Gauls, with the same attributes as the Mars of the Romans.

HORÆ, three sisters, daughters of Jupiter; the same as the seasons who presided over spring, summer, and winter, represented by the poets as opening the gates of heaven.

HORUS, an Egyptian deity, the son of Osiris and Isis.

HYACINTHUS, the son of Amyclas and Diomede, killed by Zephyrus. Apollo

was so disconsolate at his death, that he changed his blood into the flower bearing his name, and placed his body among the constellations.

HYDRA, a monster with a hundred heads (according to Diodorus). Hercules slew this monster, which had infested the neighbourhood of lake Lerna, in Peloponnesus. Juno, jealous of the glory Hercules was obtaining by this deed, sent a crab to bite his foot. Hercules soon dispatched the crab; and Juno, unable to lessen the fame of Hercules, placed the crab which had annoyed the hero among the constellations, where it is now called Cancer.

HYGEIA, the goddess of health. She was the daughter of *Æsculapius*.

HYMENÆUS or **HYMEN**, the son of Bacchus and Venus. He was the god of marriage.

HYPERION, the son of Cœlus and

Terra. He was the father of Aurora. The poets often use his name to signify the sun.

I. and J.

IACCHUS, a surname of Bacchus.

JANUS, the son of Apollo. His temple at Rome was open in time of war, and shut in time of peace. During a period of 700 years it was only closed three times; viz. under Numa Pompilius, in the year before Christ 234, and under Augustus Cæsar.

JAPETUS, a son of Cœlus and Terra. He was regarded as the father of mankind. Hence old men frequently received the name of Japeti.

IARBAS, a son of Jupiter and Garamantis. From him, Dido purchased the ground on which she built Carthage. Rather than marry Iarbas, Dido destroyed herself.

JASON, a descendant of *Aeolus*, a celebrated hero, whose education was entrusted to the centaur Chiron. He commanded the expedition to Colchis, in search of the golden fleece, which, by the assistance of Medea, he triumphantly brought to Thessaly.

INDRA, the god of heaven among the Hindoos.

IRIS, the messenger of the gods, but more particularly of Juno. She is the same as the rainbow.

ISIS, a celebrated deity of the Egyptians. She was often represented as the moon, and her brother Osiris as the sun.

JUNO, daughter of Saturn and Ops, the wife of Jupiter, the queen of all the gods and goddesses, and the mistress of heaven and earth. The worship of this deity was universal among the ancients, and her sacrifices were made with equal solemnity with those of Jupiter.

JUPITER, son of Saturn and Ops, and the supreme deity of the ancients. Having become master of the universe by the subjugation of the Titans, he divided the empire with his brothers Neptune and Pluto, to whom he respectively gave the empires of the sea and the infernal regions, reserving for himself the kingdom of heaven.

JUVENTAS, the goddess of youth at Rome, the same as the Hebe of the Greeks.

IXION, a king of Thessaly, who for his many perfidies was doomed by Jupiter to be tied to a wheel in hell which continually revolved.

L.

LACHAMEE, the goddess of plenty among the Hindoos.

LAMÆ or LEMURES, monsters (by some supposed to be the manes of the

dead), who disturbed the peace of all mankind, terrifying the good and haunting the wicked.

LARES, household gods among the Romans.

LATONA, the mother of Apollo and Diana.

LAVERNA, the goddess of thieves and dishonest persons at Rome.

LEMURIA, feasts instituted by Romulus to appease the manes of the dead.

LETHE, a river of hell, whose waters were drunk by the souls of the dead, to cause them to forget whatever they had done, seen, or heard.

LIBITINA, a goddess at Rome, who presided over funerals. Persons, who undertook the whole care and charge of funerals, were called Libitinarii.

LUCIFER, a name given by the poets to the planet Venus, when a morning star.

LUNA, the daughter of Hyperion and Terra. The name signifies the moon.

LUPERCALIA, feasts held at Rome in honour of the God Pan.

LYCÆA, feasts held by the Greeks in honour of the God Pan.

LYCURGIDES, days of solemnity appointed to be kept annually in honour of Lycurgus, the great Spartan lawgiver.

M.

MACEDO, a son of Osiris, who gave his name to Macedonia.

MÆNADES, a surname of the Bacchantes or priestesses of Bacchus.

MAGI, a religious sect founded by Zoroaster. This sect attained great celebrity for their skill in mathematics, philosophy, and astronomy.

MANES, a name applied to the souls of the dead. They were worshipped with much solemnity, particularly by the Romans.

MANIA, a goddess, represented to be the mother of the Manes and the Lares.

MARS, the son of Jupiter and Juno. He was the god of war, and was greatly reverenced by the Romans as their patron deity.

MEDÉA, a famous enchantress, the daughter of Æetes, king of Colchis. She married Jason ; and it was owing entirely to her efforts that the Argonauts succeeded in their enterprise.

MEDUSA, one of the three Gorgons. After her head was cut off by Perseus, it retained the power of turning into stone all who looked upon it—so horrifying was its appearance. This head subsequently formed the boss of Minerva's shield.

MEGÆRA, one of the Furies. She, like her sisters, was deputed by the gods to punish mankind for their crimes, by bringing upon them diseases and death.

MELPOMENE, one of the nine daughters of Jupiter and Mnemosyne. She presided over tragedy.

MERCURIUS, the son of Jupiter and Maia. He was employed by all the gods as their messenger, and particularly by Jupiter, who furnished him with a winged cap, called petasus, and with wings for his feet, called talaria, to add to his natural swiftness. Mercury was not only the god of eloquence, but also of dishonesty. To Mercury was appointed the charge of conducting the souls of the dead to their future abode. This god was called Hermes by the Greeks.

MEROPE, one of the Atlantides. The wife of Sisyphus.

MENU, the Hindoo lawgiver.

METIS, one of the Oceanides. Jupiter's first wife.

MIDAS, a king of Phrygia, endowed by Bacchus with the power of turning everything he touched into gold. Being desirous afterwards of having this power taken from him (for it threatened his destruction by starvation), he was ordered

to bathe in the Pactolus, whose sands were thus turned into gold. For having admired the music of Pan, in preference to that of Apollo, the offended god changed the ears of Midas into those of an ass.

MINERVA, the goddess of wisdom, war, and the sciences. She sprang from the brains of Jupiter, full grown and in complete armour.

MINOS, a king of Crete, who lived B. C. 1406. He was famed for his justice, moderation, and the excellence of his laws. After his death, he is represented by the poets as presiding in the Infernal Regions, the supreme judge of the dead.

MNEMOSYNE, a daughter of Cœlus and Terra. She was the mother of the nine Muses.

MOMUS, the god of satire and raillery. He was expelled from heaven for satirizing the gods and goddesses.

MORS, the goddess of death, an infernal deity, worshipped by the ancients.

MUSÆ, the nine daughters of Jupiter and Mnemosyne. They presided over the sciences and liberal arts. Their names were Calliope, Clio, Euterpe, Erato, Melpomene, Polyhymnia, Terpsichore, Thalia, and Urania. Calliope presided over eloquence and heroic poetry; Clio over history; Euterpe over music; Erato over poetry, lyric and amatory; Melpomene over tragedy; Polyhymnia over singing and rhetoric; Terpsichore over dancing; Thalia over pastoral and comic poetry; and Urania over astronomy. They are sometimes called Pierides, from Mount Pierus, where they were born.

MUTA, the goddess of silence among the Romans.

N.

NÆNIA, the goddess of funerals at Rome. The funeral song, in praise of the deceased, was called *Nænia*.

NAIADES, inferior deities who presided over rivers, springs, and fountains.

NECESSITAS, the mother of the Parcæ.

NEMESIS, an infernal deity — the goddess of revenge ; always ready to punish impiety and all other crimes.

NEPTUNUS, the god of the sea. He was the son of Saturn and Ops, and the brother of Jupiter, Pluto, and Juno.

NEREIDES, nymphs of the sea, fifty in number, whose duty it was to attend upon the superior deities of the sea.

NEREUS, a deity of the sea. He was the father of the Nereides. The word Nereus is often used for the sea itself.

NINUS, the founder of the Assyrian monarchy, b.c. 2059. After his death this king received divine honours, and became the Jupiter of the Assyrians and the Hercules of the Chaldeans.

NIOBE, the daughter of Tantalus, and sister to Pelops. She ridiculed the ho-

nours paid to Latona, who, in revenge, urged Apollo and Diana to slay her fourteen children. On account of this dreadful calamity, Niobe wept herself into a stone.

Nox, the daughter of Chaos and one of the most ancient of the deities. She married Erebus, and was the mother of Day and Light.

O.

OCEANIDES, sea nymphs, daughters of Oceanus and Tethys.

OCEANUS, the son of Cœlus and Terra. He was considered a powerful deity of the sea, and was solemnly invoked by sailors before they entrusted themselves on the bosom of his empire.

OCPETE, one of the Harpies. Whatever she touched she defiled.

Ops, the daughter of Cœlus and Terra, wife of Saturn, and mother of Jupiter.

She was the same as the Rhea of the Greeks.

OREADES, nymphs of the mountains. They generally attended Diana when hunting.

ORGIA, festivals in honour of Bacchus.

ORPHÉUS, the son of Apollo, who charmed even rocks, rivers, and fountains with the sound of his lyre.

ORUS or H^ORUS, the son of Osiris and Isis, an Egyptian deity.

OSIRIS, the supreme deity of the Egyptians. The ox was the symbol of Osiris, or the sun. He was the son of Jupiter and Niobe, and the husband and brother of Isis or the moon.

P.

PACTOLUS, a river of Lydia, in which Midas washed when endowed with the power of turning into gold whatever he

touched ; from this circumstance the sands of the river became gold.

PÆAN, a hymn sung in honour of Apollo.

PALES, the goddess of pastures and sheepfolds.

PALILIA, feasts held in honour of Pales at Rome.

PALLAS, a surname of Minerva. She acquired this name either from having slain the giant Pallas, or from the spear she held.

PALLAS, a son of Tartarus and Terra, killed by Minerva.

PAN, the god of shepherds and huntsmen. His favourite residence was in Arcadia. He was a monster in appearance, having two small horns on his head, and his feet like those of a goat.

PANACEA, a daughter of Esculapius and a goddess of health.

PANATHENÆA, festivals in honour of Minerva.

PANDORA, a woman made of clay by Vulcan. All the gods and goddesses endowed her with valuable gifts, excepting Jupiter, whose gift was a box containing all kinds of evils. This box being opened by her husband, the evils contained therein dispersed themselves all over the world, and still continue to afflict mankind. Hope alone remained at the bottom, which still consoles the afflicted.

PANOPE, one of the Nereides.

PANTHEON, a temple at Rome, dedicated to all the gods, now a Christian church.

PARCÆ, goddesses who presided over the lives of mortals. Their names were Clotho, Lachesis, and Atropos. They were supposed to spin and cut the thread of human life; hence they are represented as old women: the first holding a spindle,

the second a distaff, and the third a pair of scissors.

PARTHENON, a temple sacred to Minerva at Athens.

PAX, the goddess of peace.

PEGASUS, a winged horse, which sprang from the blood of Medusa when slain by Perseus. Pegasus was the favourite of the Muses.

PELOPS, the son of Tantalus, killed by his father, to try the divinity of the gods when they visited Phrygia, his limbs being served to them in a dish. Jupiter restored Pelops to life, and punished the cruelty of Tantalus in a remarkable manner.

PENATES, inferior deities among the Romans. They presided over the domestic affairs of families. Their statues were made of wax, ivory, or silver, &c., and were placed in the most secret parts of the dwelling.

PERIPATETICI, a sect of philosophers, so called from their receiving the lectures of their master (Aristotle) while walking.

PHAËTON, the son of Phœbus, who asked the guidance of his father's chariot for one day, in order to publish to all the world his true origin. The horses of the sun, sensible of his inefficiency, departed from their customary track, threatening destruction to the universe; to prevent which, Jupiter hurled him from the chariot into the river Po. His body was afterwards buried by the nymphs of the place.

PHAËTONTIDES, the sisters of Phaëton, who, while mourning the unhappy end of their brother, were changed by Jupiter into poplars.

PHILOMELA, a daughter of Pandion, king of Athens, changed into a nightingale.

PHLEGETHON, a river in hell, whose waters were always at boiling point.

PHOBOS, a son of Mars, and the god of terror.

PHŒBE, a surname of Diana or Luna, from the brightness of the moon.

PHŒBUS, a surname of Apollo or the sun, from the brightness of that luminary.

PHORCUS or PHORCYS, a sea deity : he was the father of the Gorgons.

PIERIDES, a name given to the Muses from their birthplace.

PIERUS, a mountain in Thessaly, sacred to the Muses.

PINDUS, a mountain, celebrated as being sacred to Apollo and the Muses.

PITHO, the daughter of Mercury and Venus : she was the goddess of persuasion.

PLEIADES, a name given to the seven daughters of Atlas and Pleione, one of the Oceanides. They form the constellation in the heavens called Pleiades, near Taurus in the Zodiac.

PLUTO, a son of Saturn and Ops.
The god of the infernal regions.

PLUTUS, the god of riches. The son of Ceres.

POLLEAR, the son of Seeva, a Hindoo divinity, represented with an elephant's head. He and many thousand inferior deities, the sons of Casayopa and Aditi, are ignorantly worshipped by the Hindoos.

POLLUX, the son of Jupiter. He and his twin brother Castor enjoy immortality alternately.

POLYPHEMUS, one of the Cyclops, who dwelt on the coast of Sicily and fed upon human flesh. Ulysses killed this monster.

POMONA, a deity at Rome, who presided over fruit trees.

PRIAPUS, a deity who protected gardens from predators: he was the son of Venus.

PROMETHEUS, a son of Japetus, and

the brother of Atlas, remarkable for his cunning, whereby Jupiter himself was deceived. He stole fire from the chariot of the sun, wherewith he animated figures of clay which he had formed. To punish his audacity, Jupiter commanded him to be chained to Mount Caucasus for 30,000 years with a vulture gnawing his liver: Hercules released him from this painful position, and killed the vulture, thirty years afterwards.

PROSERPINE, the daughter of Ceres and the wife of Pluto.

PROTEUS, a sea deity, the son of Oceanus. He had the power of assuming any shape he pleased.

PSYCHE, the wife of Cupid and goddess of the mind. The word signifies the soul.

PUDICITIA, the goddess of chastity. The Romans deified this virtue.

PYRAMUS, a youth of Babylon, who not being allowed to marry a girl named

Thisbe, agreed to meet her under a certain mulberry tree, where they killed themselves with the same sword. It is said their blood dyed the fruit of the tree a deep purple, which before was white.

Q.

QUIRINUS, a surname of Mars amongst the Romans. Romulus being the supposed son of Mars, was worshipped under this name after his mysterious death.

R.

REMURIA, festivals at Rome instituted by Romulus, afterwards called Lemuria.

RHADAMANTHUS, a son of Jupiter, made a judge in hell on account of the justice and moderation he evinced while reigning a monarch upon earth.

RHEA, a daughter of Cœlus and Terra. She was the wife of Saturn. She is sometimes named Ops, Cybele or Tellus, &c.

She is the mother of Jupiter, Neptune, Pluto, Juno, Vesta, and Ceres.

S.

SACHI, the wife of Indra and queen of heaven among the Hindoos.

SALUS, the goddess of health at Rome. She is the same as the Hygeia of the Greeks.

SATURNALIA, feasts in honour of Saturn. During the celebration of these festivals, the utmost joy and freedom prevailed. All enmities ceased, and slaves and free-men mingled in the same conviviality, in commemoration of the happy state of man during the golden reign of Saturn.

SATURNIA, a name given to Juno, as being the daughter of Saturn.

SATURNIUS, a name applied to Jupiter, Pluto, and Neptune, as sons of Saturn.

SATURNUS, a son of Cœlus and Terra, the god of time. He devoured his male

children as soon as they were born. His wife, however, contrived to save Jupiter, Pluto, and Neptune. It was usual to sacrifice human victims upon his altar. Saturn reigned some time in Italy, and under his administration mankind were so happy, that his reign is termed the Golden Age.

SATYRI, demigods represented in the form of men, but covered with hair, and having their feet and legs like goats, and short horns on their head. They are the same as the Fauns.

SEEVA, a Hindoo god, supposed to be the destroyer of all animal and vegetable creation. His temple at Juggernaut is annually the resort of many hundred thousand pilgrims. Under the form of a bull this god is drawn on a car in procession, when his most devoted worshippers throw themselves on the ground, to be crushed under the wheels.

SEMELE, a grand-daughter of Mars and Venus, and the mother of the god Bacchus.

SEMONES, a name given to the inferior deities, as Pan, the Satyrs, Priapus, Janus, &c.

SEPTERION, a festival observed every nine years at Delphi in honour of Apollo.

SERAPIS, an ancient Egyptian deity, supposed to be the same as the bull Apis. A magnificent temple was dedicated to him at Alexandria.

SESHANAGA, the king of the infernal regions among the Hindoos. He is represented as having a thousand heads, and on each a crown of sparkling gems. Seshanaga is also the king of serpents.

SIBYLLÆ, women who pretended to be inspired by heaven to foretell future events. Sibyls have flourished, at different periods, in different parts of the earth.

SIDE, the wife of Orion, thrown into the infernal regions by Juno, for having boasted that her beauty surpassed that of the queen of heaven.

SILENUS, the foster father of the god Bacchus, esteemed a demi-god. He had a temple dedicated to him at Elis. Silenus accompanied Bacchus in his eastern expedition; and it was for having befriended Silenus (who had lost his way in Phrygia) that Midas was rewarded by Bacchus with the power of turning every thing he touched into gold.

SILVANUS, a rural deity. He presided over gardens and boundaries.

SIRENES or SYRENS, three sea nymphs, daughters of Achelous and the Muse Calliope. Their names were Parthenope, Ligeia, and Leucosia. They charmed people with the sweetness of their voice, and then devoured them. Ulysses, to protect himself from their enchantment,

while sailing past that part of the coast of Sicily inhabited by them, caused himself to be tied to the mast of his ship and the ears of the ship's crew to be stopped with wax.

SISYPHUS, the son of *Æolus*, doomed to roll a huge stone up a mountain in hell, which continually rolled back ; thus his punishment was perpetual. This rigorous sentence he received, on account of his numerous perfidies.

SMINTHEUS, a surname of Apollo in Phrygia, where he had a temple.

SOCRATES, an illustrious Athenian philosopher who flourished 400 years before the Christian era. Endowed by nature with a sound judgment and great fortitude of mind, he early discovered the errors of the religion in which he had been educated, and conscientiously devoted himself to the instruction and enlightenment of the youth of Athens. He

taught the immortality of the soul, the almighty power of the Creator of the universe, the certainty of future rewards and punishments, and the necessity of a virtuous life. With the exception of the Christians, the character of Socrates is the most faultless of antiquity. He was brought to trial charged with bringing the worship of the gods into contempt, and condemned to death. His wisdom and exemplary life made a deep impression on his countrymen, who, after his death, revered his memory and punished his accusers. The doctrines of Socrates raised the moral tone of the Athenian character, and laid the foundation of the sects of the Platonists, Stoicks, Peripatetics, Academics, Cyrenaics, &c., which subsequently arose.

SOL, the sun ; worshipped by the Persians under the name of Mithras, by the Chaldeans under that of Baal or Bel, by

the Canaanites under that of Moloch, by the Syrians under that of Adonis, and by the Egyptians under that of Osiris. Sol, Apollo, and Phœbus are supposed to be the same deity.

SOMNUS, the god of sleep. He was the son of Erebus and Nox.

STENTOR, a Greek, whose voice was louder than that of fifty men together.

STHENO, one of the Gorgons.

STOICI, a sect of philosophers founded by Zeno of Citium.

STYX, a river of hell, held in such veneration, that when the gods swore by it, their oath was irrevocable.

SUADA, the goddess of persuasion among the Romans. She is the same as the Pitho of the Greeks.

SYLVANUS, the god of woods.

T.

TANTALUS, a son of Jupiter, and the father of Niobe and Pelops. To try the divinity of the gods, he killed Pelops, and served up his limbs in a dish: for which wickedness he was plunged up to the chin in a lake of hell, whose waters escaped from his lips, whenever he attempted to drink; at the same time a tree, laden with delicious fruit, hung over his head, whose branches swung from his grasp whenever he attempted to seize them. Thus, with food and drink apparently within his reach, he was doomed to suffer perpetual hunger and thirst.

TARTARUS, that region of hell to which were banished those of the dead who were adjudged to have been the most wicked and impious in their lives. Here Ixion, Sisyphus, Tityus, &c., suffered punishment.

TEMPÉ, a beautiful vale of Thessaly, between mounts Olympus and Ossa.

TERMINALIA, festivals at Rome in honour of the god Terminus.

TERMINUS, the god of boundaries.

TERPSICHORE, one of the Muses. She presided over dancing.

TERRA, one of the most ancient of the deities. She was the wife of Uranus, and the mother of the Titans, Giants, Cyclops, &c. &c.

TETHYS, a sea deity, the wife of Oceanus, and the daughter of Uranus and Terra. She was the mother of all the chief rivers of the world, and of about 3000 daughters called Oceanides.

TEUTAS, the name of Mercury among the Gauls.

THALIA, one of the Muses. She presided over comedy and pastoral poetry.

THEA, a daughter of Uranus and Terra. She was the wife of Hyperion, and the

mother of the sun, moon, Aurora, &c.
She is sometimes called Rhea and Titæa.

THEMIS, the mother of the Parcæ and
of the Horæ.

THEOPHANIA, festivals at Delphi, in
honour of Apollo.

THESMOPHORIA, festivals in honour of
Ceres, celebrated in all the Grecian cities,
but especially at Athens.

THETIS, a sea deity, the grand-daughter
of Tethys, and the mother of Achilles.
It was at the marriage of Thetis with
Peleus, that the goddess of discord threw
into the assemblage of divinities, who
honoured the ceremony with their pre-
sence, the golden apple inscribed “to the
fairest of the goddesses.”

THOR, a Saxon deity, with the attri-
butes of Jupiter.

THOTH, an Egyptian deity, with the
attributes of Mercury.

TISIPHONE, one of the Furies.

TITANES, the sons of Cœlus and Terra, of gigantic stature and prodigious strength. They carried on a successful war against Saturn, which is much celebrated.

TITANIDES, the daughters of Cœlus and Terra. Six in number.

TITANUS, the eldest of the sons of Cœlus and Terra, brother to Saturn, Hyperion, &c. Titanus, by the assistance of his brothers, vanquished Saturn, and kept him a prisoner until he was released by his son Jupiter.

TITYUS, a giant said to have occupied nine acres of ground when stretched out to his full length. Apollo and Diana killed him with their arrows, and after death he was placed in Tartarus, where a serpent continually gnawed his liver.

TRITON, a sea deity, the son of Neptune and Amphitrite, employed as his father's trumpeter. Many of the sea deities are called Tritons.

TROPHONIUS, a man honoured as a god. He delivered oracles in a gloomy cave.

V.

VACUNA, the goddess of repose and leisure.

VENUS, the goddess of beauty. She arose from the froth of the sea, near the island of Cythera. She contested with Juno and Pallas for the apple of discord, and gained the prize. She was married to Vulcan, who was both ugly and deformed.

VENTI, the winds which were invoked by the ancients as deities. The four chief winds were Eurus, Auster, Zephyrus, and Boreas.

VERTUMNUS, the god of spring. A Roman deity.

VESPER, the poetical name for the

planet Venus when she shines in the evening.

VESTA, the goddess of fire. She was the daughter of Saturn and Rhea, and sister to Ceres and Juno. In her temple at Rome, virgins of the most noble families constantly kept the sacred fire burning on her altars.

VESTALES, priestesses consecrated to the service of the goddess Vesta at Rome. They enjoyed great honours and privileges, but were punished with death if convicted of having broken their vows. Plebeians were eligible to fill the office, if of good family and of great beauty.

VICTORIA, the goddess of victory at Rome: by the Greeks she was called Nice.

VIRTUTES, all the virtues, as honour, prudence, justice, temperance, modesty, clemency, devotion, tranquillity, and health, were honoured as deities by the Romans.

VISHNU, a god of the Hindoos, supposed to preserve all animal and vegetable creation.

VOLUMNUS, and Volumna, two deities, who presided over the will, chiefly invoked to preserve concord.

VOLUPTAS, the goddess of pleasure, worshipped at Rome.

VULCANUS, the god of fire, famed for his deformity. He was the son of Jupiter and Juno and the husband of Venus. For interfering in the quarrels between Jupiter and Juno he was kicked out of heaven, when he broke his leg by the fall. The Cyclops were his attendants, and with their assistance he forged the thunderbolts of Jupiter, and fabricated arms for gods and heroes.

U.

URANIA, one of the Muses : she presided over astronomy.

URANUS, the most ancient of all the gods. He is the same as Cœlus, and married Terra, or the earth.

W.

WODEN, a Saxon deity, with the attributes of Mars.

X.

XANTHE, one of the Oceanides.

Y.

YAMEN, the judge of departed spirits, among the Hindoos. If the soul be considered unworthy to enter Swerga, the first heaven, it is either sent down to the region of serpents, or made to return again to earth, under some new form, either animal, vegetable, or mineral.

Z.

ZEPHYRUS, the son of Astreus and Aurora. His name is poetically used for the west wind.

ZENO, the founder of the sect called Stoicks, so called from the name of the portico at Athens, where he delivered his lectures.

ZEUS, a name of Jupiter among the Greeks, as father of mankind, and the deity by whom all things are sustained.

ZOROASTER, the founder of the doctrines of the Magi.

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